



July 25, 2007

The Honorable John D. Dingell, Jr.
Chairman
Committee on Energy and Commerce
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-6115

Dear Chairman Dingell:

On behalf of the Generic Pharmaceutical Association (GPhA), I write to commend you for your leadership in introducing *The Children's Health and Medicare Protection (CHAMP) Act* (H.R. 3162), and to extend our endorsement of this important piece of legislation.

The State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) has been a landmark example of a successful federal-state, public-private partnership, and has allowed great strides to be made in expanding coverage to millions of uninsured children. But if SCHIP is allowed to expire on September 30th, many of the children who have benefited from health insurance might once again lack coverage – and the door will be closed to the many millions more who are eligible but remain uninsured today.

The work of SCHIP is not complete. Children who benefit from the program receive many basic services – such as regular checkups and access to prescription medicines – that improve their health outcomes. The CHAMP Act will extend this opportunity to over five million previously uninsured children, improve the quality of health insurance coverage available to current and prospective beneficiaries, and also make needed improvements to the Medicare program. We are proud of the contributions our industry has made and will continue to make to ensure that affordable medicines are available to children and their parents in the Medicaid and SCHIP programs.

GPhA is pleased to support the CHAMP Act and urges Congress to pass it in a timely manner. We look forward to working with you to achieve this outcome.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Jaeger
President and CEO

